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DIVISION OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
BUREAU OF ADULT EDUCATION AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS
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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Child Day Care Centers Sponsors

FROM: Maureen Staggenborg, Acting Bureau Chief
Bureau of Adult Education and Nutrition Programs

DATE: June 18, 2003

SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum #07C-03
Military Families and Eligibility in Child Nutrition Programs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has provided clarification on child nutrition policy for households affected by deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and possible future military contingencies. In recent years, USDA has addressed the deployment of family members for military service to accommodate free and reduced price meal eligibility determinations.

Under current policy, household members who are living apart on a temporary basis are considered household members, and their income is included with other household income when making an eligibility determination. Household members not living with the household for an extended period of time or living overseas are not included as members of the household for eligibility purposes. However, that portion of their income made available by them or on their behalf to the household is counted as income to the household.

For the duration of Operation Enduring Freedom, USDA is allowing an exception to the current policy on determining household income and size for deployed service members. **Therefore, in establishing a child's eligibility for free and reduced price meals in CACFP centers, only that portion of the deployed service member's income made available by them or on their behalf to the household will be counted as income to the household. In addition, the deployed service member will continue to be considered a household member.**

It there are any questions about this information, contact Susan Boyle at 860-807-2074, Susan Bransfield at 860-807-2076 or Benedict Onye at 860-807-2080. Thank you.